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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

Single copy 35 cents **(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)**

Anger over Bill

New Delhi, (UNI) - The new British Nationality Bill before British Parliament came in for scathing attack from members during question time in the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament).

In view of the anger and concern expressed by both the Opposition and the ruling party members, Chairman of the House M. Hidayatullah directed External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao to keep a "close watch" on the developments relating to the bill before the British Parliament.

He asked Mr. Rao to keep the House informed about the passage of this bill and on his own report the steps the Government proposed to take for protecting the interests of citizens of Indian origin in the United Kingdom.

Bhupesh Gupta (Communist Party) informed the Chairman that according to a telephone message, from UK, the bill was before the select committee of the British Parliament. He, therefore, urged Mr. Rao to act quickly before it became law.

Indradeep Sinha (Communist Party), who put the main question, suggested that India should explore the possibilities of having a joint discussion on the provisions of the bill detriment to the Indian citizens living in Britain.

Mr. Rao rejected the suggestion saying that such a step would be unprecedented. He, however, assured the member that the matter has been taken up with the British Government.

Higher education reform urged

New Delhi, (UNI) - Dr. (Mrs.) Madhuri R. Shah, the new Chairman of the Indian University Grants Commission (UGC), wants to bring about "radical changes" in the UGC in order to make it more " effective and purposeful" for promoting higher education.

Lack of proper planning and "half-hearted" implementation of the desired educational reforms had created an academic crisis in the country, she said, and called for coordination among various agencies at all stages for effective implementation of educational policies and programmes.

Dr. Shah, former Vice-Chancellor of Women's University in Bombay, told UNI that she favoured updating the educational system by reviewing programme implementation.

The mother tongue should be the medium of instruction at pre-primary, primary and secondary levels, since by the time a child was admitted to school, he possessed a good command over the medium.

However, she stressed the need for adopting a bilingual policy for teaching English and Hindi equally well along with the mother tongue.

"We must teach English very well as it is an important international language," she said, adding English could not be ruled out altogether just because of "our conservative nationalist spirit".

Dr. Shah favoured non-formal education at the university level, flexibility in the curriculum and courses and examination reforms through proper planning.

Answering a question, she said the main cause of student unrest in the country was due to non-appreciation of the aspirations of the youths. Students should be properly motivated for which education should be made worthwhile.

Dr. Shah called for overall changes in education at various levels for establishing proper co-ordination among students, teachers and planners.

The UGC chief said higher education could not achieve its manifold objectives and satisfy the needs of the students unless it was organised on a logical basis with a professional expertise of a high order.

Delhi offer to doctors

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Delhi Development Authority, the apex body responsible for the planned growth of the capital, has announced an unique proposition to Indian doctors settled abroad.

Twelve real estate plots, located in prime residential colonies, have been offered for sale to set up Nursing Homes.

"This worthwhile and profitable offer to return to their motherland" has been made only to Indian doctors practising abroad, and payment for the plots will have to be made in foreign exchange, according to the announcement.

The DDA has contributed significantly to the rapid emergence of new centres of commercial and institutional activities in the Capital. This has helped in not only providing for new needs to the rapidly expanding population of the city, but also in decongesting the old city.

Recently, a massive housing scheme in north-west Delhi, only 15 km from the central Connaught Place shopping complex, was launched by the Authority.

The ambitious scheme, named Rohini, envisages the setting up of 170,000 dwelling units in an area spread over 2497 hectares at an estimated cost of 312.5 million dollars. The project will have commercial centres, industrial areas, recreational centres and cultural, educational and health institutions.

Big plans for oil

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has drawn up an ambitious plan to produce 70 million tonnes of crude oil -- 50 from offshore and 20 from onshore wells during the next five years, according to ONGC sources.

The sources said this would lead to a saving of foreign exchange to the tune of over Rs 150,000 during the period.

According to the plan, 556 exploratory wells and 535 development wells would be taken up for drilling within the next five years. Four mobile rigs and nearly 50 fixed offshore platforms will be added within this period and nearly 400 km submarine pipelines will be laid.

The ONGC plan also envisages a six-fold increase in gas availability -- from two million cubic metres a day this year to 13.6 million cubic metres a day by 1985.

Visitor insane in slaying of 2

By Brian Gory

Winnipeg - A young visitor from India, described as being distressed at the prospect of having to return to India while other family members were allowed to immigrate here, was found not guilty by reason of insanity yesterday in the axe murder last July of two relatives.

A Court of Queen's Bench jury deliberated for 12 hours before siding with defence lawyer David Margolis, who contended that 23-year-old Jasinder Sodhi suffered from delusions of persecution when he killed his sister-in-law, Amminder Sodhi, 21, and her brother, Parabjit Singh, 19, as they slept in the house where he was a visitor.

The murders were committed four days after Mr. Sodhi had been ordered to appear at a deportation hearing. He had been in Canada for eight months.

"It caused considerable stress," psychiatrist Robert Bankier testified during the eight-day trial. "He was an oddball, told to get out, when the rest of his family would become landed immigrants."

Psychiatrist Jagan Joschi added that Mr. Sodhi "was a helpless, defenceless child, at the mercy of others." He had achieved only a Grade 3 education by the time he had reached 17.

Besides the fear of leaving Canada, Mr. Sodhi had other things weighing on his mind that led to mental derangement, the court was told. His victims had joked about his having to return to India, and he believed they were plotting to kill him. In one incident, he thought his sister-in-law's brother was trying to throw him to his death when he rocked a seat at the top of a ferriswheel ride.

Jurors were shown particularly gruesome photographs of head wounds in which brain tissue was exposed and heard evidence that a great deal of force was used in the attacks.

The convicted man's brother, Rajinder Sodhi, a Canadian citizen, testified that the family wanted to keep Mr. Sodhi in Canada, at least until his parents arrived as landed immigrants.

Immigration officials granted him two extensions, but finally confiscated his passport and ordered him to appear at an inquiry when he did not meet his final deadline to leave the country.

Jean Boisvert, manager of the Winnipeg immigration office, said in an interview yesterday that although Mr. Sodhi's parents were being processed to live here, their son had passed the age (21) at which he could be considered a dependent.

Mr. Sodhi would have to submit his own application in India.

His name, as well as the names of a younger brother and sister, were included on the parents' original immigration application. But his parents were told that none would be allowed to come here if they insisted on keeping their older son's name on the application.

Mr. Boisvert said that Mr. Sodhi showed no great distress when he appeared at meetings in the immigration office with his brother as translator to discuss his visitor's visa.

In a concluding comment after the jury returned its verdict, Mr. Justice Peter Morse instructed immigration authorities to continue the necessary inquiry with respect to possible deportation when Mr. Sodhi is declared fit.

In fact, doctors at his trial already have testified that he is fit and Mr. Boisvert said immigration officers will review his case every seven days.

[The Globe and Mail].

INDIA AND KUWAIT TO EXPAND COOPERATION

New Delhi, (UNI) - India and Kuwait have decided to set up a joint investment corporation, details of which will be finalised soon.

Mammoth rally

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The Capital witnessed the biggest ever conclave of men on February 16 when the ruling Congress (I) organised a Kisan Rally to express the solidarity of kisans in the country with Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

They came from almost all states by special trains, trucks, buses, tractors, auto-rickshaws. From the nearby places they came on their bicycles and many made it on foot.

The Congress (I) estimated the crowd at 25 lakhs while others put it between 10 to 15 lakhs and there was no way to be sure. However, it was the biggest ever crowd this correspondent witnessed in the Capical, or for that matter anywhere else, during the last 25 years.

The crowd was so large that it covered the entire span of three kilometre distance from the raised platform on which Mrs. Gandhi stood to address them on the Boat Club lawns less than a kilometre from the Parliament House where the Budget session started in the morning. Those at the far end could neither see Mrs. Gandhi nor hear her, thanks to the failure of the public address system and also the numerous close-circuit television sets.

The rally was also telecast by the European Broadcasting Union an International TV agency, via satellite.

If it were a show of strength Mrs. Gandhi took the thunder. For the Kisans it was nothing more than a mela, many of them visiting the capital, for that matter any city of the kind, for the first time. For them it was also a polgrimage to the seat of power of their "ma" (mother), Mrs. Indira Gandhi. The Prime Minister on her part promised supreme sacrifice for the farmers.

Tractors role

New Delhi, (UNI) - A recent survey by the Indian National Council of Applied Economic Reserach has revealed that tractors play a vital role in the small farmer's life.

The survey, which covered as many as 21,162 rural households in seven Indian States, shows that 31 per cent of the tractor utilisation is on the farmer's own land and there is also a custom to rent it to the neighbouring farmers.

The survey reveals that 81 per cent of the tractor utilisation on hire basis is taken by small farmers with less than four hectares of land.

The tractor farms have an average of 20 per cent higher yield as compared to farms using bullocks.

Tractor-owning farmers get 58 per cent higher income from their lands. They employ 34 per cent more hired labour per hectare as compared to bullock farms and show results of better land management.

Five million houseless

New Delhi, (UNI) - Out of the five million houseless rural poor in India, about half were in the four relatively industrially advanced states of Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, according to a recent study by the Reserve Bank.

The study said that the housing conditions of the poor cultivators were particularly bad in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Assam. It pointed out that by 1981, at least 43 million new houses would have to be built in rural India.

The study has advocated an investment of 14200 million dollars on rural housing over the next ten years. It said that better housing in rural areas would lead to more employment and income of families. It would have a healthy impact on productivity of labour in rural areas.

The study said that little attention had been given to the rual housing problem in recent years. By 1978, only about 67,000 houses had been constructed in rural areas throughout the country, as against five million rural households who had no housing in 1971.

Tea exports aided

New Delhi, (UNI) - The West Asian and North African (WANA) countries are the major markets for Indian packet tea and tea bags, according to an official study on export trends for tea for the first eight months of 1980-81.

The study, compiled by the Union Commerce Ministry, indicates that the export of these countries account for a little over 80 per cent of the total exports of tea in value added forms from India during this period.

An increase of 11.6 million dollars over the exports last year (1979-80) has been attributed to aggressive promotional activities undertaken by the Tea Board through its overseas offices in the region, according to an Indian daily, Economic Times.

Semen containers

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indo-Burma Petroleum Company (IBP), a public sector undertaking, has developed aluminium cryocontainers for the first time in the country, saving foreign exchange to the tune of 6.25 million dollars a year.

Cryocontainers are used extensively all over the world for storage of frozen semen in liquid nitrogen for cross-breeding cattle by artificial insemination technique. This is done to improve the breed and increase the yield of milk.

A noisy start to the budget session

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The budget session of the Parliament began with the traditional address by the President of India to a joint session of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha in the Central Hall.

The noise in the House has also become traditional as also boycott as a form of protest. The President's address was boycotted by eight Opposition parties as a protest against the policies of the government.

They were protesting against the Kisan Rally in Delhi, the LIC Ordinance, dismissal of railway loco staff, misuse of the National Security Act and the government's attitude to the strike in public sector undertaking workers in Bangalore.

As both the houses began its separate session there was noisy scenes with several members rising a number of issues including adjournment motions. The Speaker disallowed all adjournment motions but allowed Atalbihari Vajpayee of the Bharatiya Janata Party and George Fernandez of the Lok Dal to speak on the inter-session ordifnances promulgated by the government.

The President, Neelam Saujiva Reddy, in his address referred to the international situation and said: "As we enter the eighties we apprehend increased threats to the process of detente between the big powers. Events in Afghanistan, West Asia and growing military activities in the Indian Ocean involving the big powers have seriously affected our security environment."

On India's relations with the neighbouring nations, Mr. Reddy said the exchange of visits at the highest level with the Soviet Union had further strengthened "our time-tested friendship." Relations with other East European countries had also grown in volume and variety.

About Indo-US relations he said: "With the USA, we share common values and ideals. It will be our endeavour to strengthen the existing multi-faceted relationship between the two countries. We are heartened at the emergence of a new mutuality of interests with countries of Western Europe, with whom we expect to expand our relations in all spheres."

About Pakistan the President said India was determined to expand and strengthen the process of normalisation of relations on the basis of the Simla agreement.

India has made it clear repeatedly that it was willing to further normalise its relations with China, Mr. Reddy said.

The President expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the non-aligned nations' conference held in Delhi recently.

About the performance of the government during the last year or so the President said that the government had gone ahead with speed and determination to repair the damage caused to the national economy by three years of drift and lack of direction. Anti-inflationary policies were vigourously pursued.

There has been a significant slowing down of the inflationary rate from 23 per cent to 15 per cent.

"The damage caused to the national economy has been repaired to a large extent, agriculture is expected to reach record levels of production and the law and order position is better," Mr. Reddy declared.

Kathakali neglected

Trivandrum, (UNI) - While Kathakali is projected in the country and abroad as a great dance form synonymous with Kerala's art heritage, many of the modern practitioners of the art are driven by penury and poverty to take up jobs as rickshaw pullers, tea shop servers and telephone wiremen.

Indeed, there have been Kathakali artistes who have thrown away their costumes in disgust to become labourers in the Gulf countries, according to the recently formed Kathakali Artistes Organisation of Kerala.

Thakazhi Kuttan Pillai, President, and Mr. Thonnakkal Peethambaran, Secretary of the Organisation, told newsmen here today that some artistes who were reluctant to give up their self-respect in the community "find refuge in foreign countries where they adulterate Kathakali for a livelihood".

Kuttan Pillai and Mr. Peethambaram said the organisation had presented a memorandum to Kerala Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar, urging immediate steps to implement their 13 demands for sustaining the art form and the artistes in the State.

The demands include teaching of Kathakali in schools, appointment of instructors to hold Kathakali appreciation courses in the corporation, municipal and panchayat areas, formation of a Cultural Affairs Department for the promotion of Kathakali and other traditional art forms, institution of awards similar to the film awards for Kathakali artistes, sanctioning of grants for the Kathakali training institutes and subsidy for the purchase of costumes, musical instruments and other aids.

New land for missions

New Delhi, (UNI) - India is negotiating with the Governments of the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Iraq for acquiring land for setting up Indian missions and residence for ambassadors.

Disclosing this in Parliament, the External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasihma Rao said that an 87.5 million-dollar five-year plan has been in operation for the purchase and construction of Indian missions abroad.

The Indian Government has already acquired land in 13 countries for this purpose.

In 25 countries, including Pakistan, the United States and the United Kingdom, the Indian missions are housed in their own buildings. In 21 other countries, the missions are in rented buildings and the total annual expenditure on them comes to 2.27 million dollars.

The External Affairs Minister said in West Asia and in Asia, the Indian missions employed 1,759 persons and the total annual expenditure on them comes to 14.5 million dollars. In Latin America, the missions employed 103 persons and the expenditure was a little less than 1.7 million dollars. In the embassy at Washington in the United States, as many as 169 people were employed and the total annual expenditure came to 2.56 million dollars.

Indian embassies in Europe employed 575 persons and spent 9.9 million dollars. In the United Kingdom, a total of 513 persons were employed and the total annual expenditure came to 4.3 million dollars.

Iran hits tea

Calcutta, (UNI) - Iran has imposed restrictions on the import of high-priced tea from India, withholding tea shipments, especially of tea bags, costing over 3.50 dollars.

This is likely to lead to a financial crisis for tea exporters who are holding orders and letters of credit from the Iranian purchasers amounting to over 25 million dollars.

Iran had earlier stipulated that the importer had to buy 2 kg of Iranian tea for every kilogramme of loose tea he sells. And for the import of every kilo of packet tea, 2.5 kg of local tea must be purchased. This was to ensure consumption of local tea as well.

India and Sri Lanka are the major exporters of tea to Iran. India exported about ten million kg of tea last year.

In Iran tea is still associated with India. Despite the Iran-Iraq war, Iran has not stopped shipments from India.

Iranian imports have continued because local production is not sufficient to meet the demands and also the quality is not as high.

INDIA TO BUILD PORT AND RAIL FACILITIES IN AFRICA

New Delhi, (UNI) - India is to cooperate with African countries in a big way this year in building their port facilities and rail and road links connecting important raw material producing centres with industrial estates.

8 million w
5 days

New Delhi, (UNI) - Nearly eight million words flow out of India to all corners of the world these past five days when the non-aligned nations were in conference in New Delhi.

Nearly 550 correspondents pounded their typewriters day and night while cameramen ran after the dignitaries inside and out of Vigyan Bhavan, the venue of the conference.

Prisoners
sex at hom

Trivandrum, (UNI) - Life convicts and other long-term prisoners in Kerala are vehemently against the idea of "conjugal visits" by their spouses, a practice permitted in some Western and Latin American countries.

According to P. Gopala Menon, former Inspector-General of Prisons, who had a long innings in jail administration in Kerala, said the prisoners found the idea suggested by a research worker some time ago not only obnoxious and immoral but also ludicrous.

The research worker was eliciting their views on having an outhouse in the jail premises where they could occasionally spend a night with their spouses. One prisoner, who felt hurt, said that inmates of the prison were being looked upon as stud bulls. Another, a bachelor, wanted to know what was to become of unmarried prisoners.

The prisoners generally felt that it would be far better if they were granted "home

New labora
Bombay

Bombay, (UNI) - India will soon have a full-fledged "ultra trace laboratory" at the Bhabha Atomic Reserach Centre (BARC) here, according to the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. H.N. Sethna.

The laboratory will enable a new level of analytical capability and help detect the trace of particles as minute as a millionth of a millionth of a gram known as picogram.

Dr. Sethna, while inaugurating the first international symposium on "Trace Anal-

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The press centre at Vigyan Bhavan manned by the Press Information Bureau provided all facilities to the Indian and foreign news media to cover the conference, attended by 95 countries.

The Posts and Telegraphs Department had made elaborate arrangements to meet the requirements of the press for a speedy transmission of messages and pictures.

Prisoners prefer sex at home

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The prisoners generally felt that it would be far better if they were granted "home leave at frequent intervals so that they could spend some time with their families, Mr. Menon told UNI.

Mr. Menon, who is now giving finishing touches to a prison manual to be submitted to the Kerala Government favours liberalising the conditions for the want of "home leave" or parole.

He also suggested that more recreational facilities like good libraries and reading rooms and sports and games should be provided in jails so that the prisoners could be kept more occupied during their spare time and are less prone to aberrations.

Mr. Menon held the view that the treatment meted out to the prisoners and the amenities provided in the prisons in Kerala were much better than elsewhere in the country. He cited the provision of ceiling fans in the prison dormitories, supply of morning and evening tea and canteen facilities. Still much remained to be done to improve the conditions in jails, he added.

New laboratory in Bombay

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Dr. Sethna, while inaugurating the first international symposium on "Trace Analysis and Technological Development" at Trombay in north-east Bombay said BARC had developed a high degree of competence in analysis at the trace level, and India's atomic energy programme owed a great deal to the important contribution made by the analytical chemists at all stages of the development.

"Starting from scratch, they have acquired, built up or set-up or established the necessary competence to meet our requirements of trace analysis", Dr. Sethna said.

Release of POWs

New Delhi, (UNI) - The long-standing issue of Indian prisoners-of-war in Pakistan is understood to have figured in the talks between the Pakistan Foreign Minister, Agha Shahi, and Mrs. Gandhi on Tuesday (Feb. 10).

Mrs. Gandhi urged the Pakistan Government to take early action on it.

Mr. Shahi explained the steps taken by his Government to locate the prisoners and said Islamabad would pursue the matter.

According to informed sources, there are 40 Indian POWs still in Pakistan.

Mr. Shahi is understood to have conveyed a message to Mrs. Gandhi from President Zia-ul-Haq.

More rubber from Kerala

Kottayam, (UNI) - The Indian Rubber Board has decided to popularise rubber cultivation in non-traditional tracts in different States.

The proposal is part of a 125-million-dollar scheme envisaging extension of rubber cultivation in 60,000 hectares during the Sixth Plan, Board Chairman S.G. Sundaram said.

A regional research centre and two regional offices of the board have already started functioning in Agartala and Gauhati (in northeast India) to provide technical assistance to cultivators. Over 2,000 hectares are already under plantation at these places.

Economy growth recorded

New Delhi, (UNI) - India is likely to achieve a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of five to six per cent during 1980-81, despite decline in industrial production, according to the latest report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

The report, which reviews the recent economic developments in the region, says that the recovery of the Indian economy during 1980-81 has been substantial only in agriculture. Recent information indicates a bumper harvest, possibly exceeding the peak level of foodgrains production of 1977-78 or an increase of 10 to 12 per cent.

The report says that the anticipated recovery of industry during the year remains in doubt. Production has not improved during the first half of the fiscal year. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Industry and Commerce (FICCI) estimates that industrial production was down by 3.2 per cent during the first six months of 1980-81.

$25 million iron casting unit

Cochin, (UNI) - A Rs 20-crore iron casting unit will be set up at Shertallai in Alleppey district, in the State sector, as part of a scheme to set up a giant steel complex in Kerala, according to the Industries Minister, P.C. Chacko.

He said here that the Government had approved the scheme and the construction work would commence by the end of March.

Mr. Chacko said the complex consisted of a forging unit at Athani, in Trichur district, a ship-breaking unit at Beypore, in Calicut district, the casting unit at Shertallai and the existing structural fabrication unit, also near Shertallai.

Good research work in Goa

New Delhi, (UNI) - Corals and seaweeds yielding anti-fertility drugs, sponges providing the raw material for heart stimulants and mangrove plant useful as a painkiller are some of the discoveries made by the National Institute of Oceanography (NID).

Located in Goa, the tiny former Portuguese enclave now a centrally administered territory on the Western coast of India, NID's research into tapping the riches under the sea has attracted international recognition. Sponsored projects comprise NID's most profitable investigations.

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*Increase the province's share of education costs back up to 60% over a period of 5 years which would reduce the education levy for each property owner.

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*Adopt a legislated provincial-municipal revenue sharing formula, which would provide for an increase in municipal revenue as the revenue of the province grows.

*Review regional governments in Ontario and make changes to lower costs of present structures.

No new regional governments would be created in Ontario.

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INDIAN MISSIONS

One of the functions of Indian missions abroad is to foster a better understanding of Indian culture abroad. Perhaps this is an area where the Indian missions have been an utter failure.

An important reason for the failure has been ignorance of the countries and cultures in which they are operating. Also Indians have been very poor salesmen of their own culture. Indian diplomats are no exception.

Imagine the plight of a western audience, for example, being subjected to the torture of a lecture by an Indian diplomat who cannot speak coherently, logically in his/her heavily accented English. The audience gets turned off and will develop an antipathy for Indian culture.

An easier way to accomplish this end would be to encourage people of Indian origin settled in these countries (especially the native born of Indian origin) to play this role. This could be accomplished by providing funds for such purposes.

However, giving away money to all types of Indian associations would not be appropriate. The grants awarded should be tied to specific projects, especially among the non-Indian population. Otherwise the poor in India will be taxed more for the benefit of well-to-do Indians settled abroad.

If funding can be provided for specific projects to promote better understanding of India, in the longer run the people in India who provide the funds will be benefitted through improved trade and other advantages. Also India's prestige abroad would receive a tremendous boost.

Plan to protect endangered plants

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Biological Survey of India (BSI) and the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, are negotiating on a joint project in India to identify and protect endangered species of plants which have economic value.

Dr. Robert de Filipps of the Office of Biological Conservation at the Smithsonian Institution told UNI that Smithsonian delegations had already had several meetings with Indian officials and scientists on the five-year project, to be called "Endangered Indian Plants of Economic Value."

The BSI estimates that of the 15,000 species of higher plants, 4,000 are found only in India. Of them, at least 2,000 are on the endangered lists.

The major plants on the Red list are orchids, grasses and Rohododendrons, BSI Director S.K. Jain said in an interview. Last year, the BSI contracted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service a five-year study on conservation of endangered flora to complement the survey's own work.

Dr. de Filipps said medicinal and food plants would get priority in the Smithsonian programme. They would also select traditional wild plants for economic exploitation.

An important economic plant on the endangered list, Dr. de Fillipps said was Rauwolfia, which had been exploited by drug manufacturers for its value in treating cardiac diseases.

The Smithsonian Institution would also consider propagating wild strains of teak and other plants as might be suggested by India, he said.

As far as the other plants, Dr de Fillipps said, Orchids and Rhododendrons -- found in the Himalayas and in Assam -- were the two plants which needed urgent attention.

Under the programme, U.S. scientists would conduct the taxonomy and conservation habitat methods studies and India, with its large scientific manpower, undertake the field work.

Dr. Jain said that besides the Smithsonian, several other international organisations had shown interest in the programme.

The Smithsonian Institution had offered to fund the project, but more significant was the fact that the Institution had vast experience in compiling and analysing data. The BSI had a budget of nearly 5 million dollars and was not short of funds, Dr. Jain said.

The non-aligned movement today

By George Mathew

"True peace is not the peace of negation,
not the peace of surrender,
not the peace of coward,
not the peace of the dying,
not the peace of the dead,
but the peace militant,
dynamic, creative,
of the human spirit which exalts," Sarojini Naidu

New Delhi: Twenty years ago in 1961 some twenty-five countries were brought under the umbrella of "non-aligned movement" at Belgrade in a common resolve to be independent and free and to pursue the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries and respect for their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

It goes to the credit of India that it played a major role in initiating the movement under the tall personality and leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru among other founding fathers like Ahmed Seokarno of Indonesia, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana and Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia.

The spirit behind the movement was the concern for national freedom and the desire for peaceful co-existence without having to lean towards any of the power bloc which were threatened by nuclear war. That was why the Belgrade conference could unequivocally appeal to the leaders of the USA and USSR to avert a nuclear war.

The movement has grown in size and its membership has nearly hit a century during the last two decades. A number of nations with tilted alliance with either of the power bloc has joined the movement. The confrontation between these two blocs in the fifties and early sixties placed the smaller nations in tension.

Political instability within the non-aligned nations and the external interference holding one section against the other became areas of tension. Dependence on the major power blocs for economic and arms aid became inevitable. War between the non-aligned nations began to threaten the very non-aligned movement. The principles on which the founding fathers built up the movement began to dilute leading to a crisis of character and a crisis of civilisation.

Under the circumstances the very movement has come under great stress and strain. How long can it sustain itself? Is non-alignment a reality today?

According to Maharishi Mahesh Yogi the policy of non-alignment is unrealistic for any country that has not risen to self-sufficiency. It is equally unrealistic for any country which has risen to self-sufficiency because of the nature of life. "Life in the state of self-sufficiency naturally expands out to others on the ground of giving and life lacking self-sufficiency also naturally looks out to others for receiving. An empty cup desires to be full and the full desires to overflow. For this reason, non-alignment is obviously an unnatural proposition for every country whether it is developing or developed."

After the demise of Tito, Mrs. Gandhi emerged as one of the senior leaders of the non-aligned movement. She led the Indian delegation to the Third, Fourth and Fifth Conferences at Lusaka, Algiers and Sri Lanka.

The concern of Mrs. Gandhi in the deteriorating values in the basic principles of the non-aligned movement was evident in both her addresses at the New Delhi conference. In her inaugural address she said: "we are here not to juggle with words but to find a way to reinforce the authority and effectiveness of the non-aligned movement." At the commemorative session she stressed the need for peace and quoted Sarojini Naidu for the definitions.

But, alas, the five-day conference ended with a "Delhi Declaration" which in effect went on record as a jugglery of words leaving the issues as it were. The consolation is that the conference did not split but could achieve a compromise formula in spite of pulling in different directions throughout the five-day deliberations.

The major issues that confronted the conference were: The Afghanistan crisis, the Kampuchean issue, Iran-Iraq war, the U.S. base in Diego Gracia and the Palestinian problem. The economic cooperation between the non-aligned nations became secondary.

The Delhi declaration called for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from both Afghanistan and Kampuchia and to bring about a political settlement. It has appointed a four-member committee (including India) to help end the Iran-Iraq war on the basis of the principles of non-alignment. India can claim a major role in this decision. The tension between the two countries were so high at the conference that the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq were not even willing to meet with each other.

The declaration noted the danger of big power rivalry in the Indian Ocean contrary to the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace as contained in the 1971 UN declaration.

On the Palestinian issue the declaration strongly condemned the hostile attitude of the United States of America towards the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the PLO and towards the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. There was no controversy on this issue.

India's Stand

India found to her discomfiture that she was out of step with the sentiments of the member-nations on the three major issues, viz Afghanistan, Kampuchia and Diego Gracia. Her pre-conference labour as the host country as well as the biggest among the non-aligned nations became futile when all the three draft resolutions underwent significant changes.

On Afghanistan the Indian draft did not mention the withdrawal of foreign troops and on the South East Asia did not refer to Kampuchea by name but vaguely referred to the "continuing conflicts and tensions in the region."

The conference declaration called for political settlement and withdrawal of foreign troops from both Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

On Indian Ocean, the Indian draft mentioned the U.S. presence in Diego Gracia but the final declaration did not favour the draft. "Name none or name all" was the consensus.

At the conference India became "non-aligned" with many non-aligned member nations. There was clear evidence of an anti-Soviet and anti-Vietnam sentiment at the conference claiming a two-third majority.

It may also be observed that some non-aligned nations are finding it necessary to tilt towards one super power or the other in their national interest. In the years to come the "third-world" countries would find it extremely difficult to practice any "genuine non-alignment". Any shift in the balance of power between the Soviet Union and the United States, any tilt of any non-aligned nation towards either of them and any conflict between the non-aligned nations themselves, none of which can be ruled out, would affect the non-aligned movement as a whole. Many small nations would look to big powers for economic and military aid and it would be idle to pretend that all aids could come without a tag attached to it.

Dilemma in crude supplies

New Delhi, (UNI) - With the damage caused by the Iran-Iraq war, things are not so encouraging on the oil front in India.

Of the total of 16 million tonnes of crude oil being imported by India annually, 11.5 million tonnes come from Iran and Iraq. But a sizeable part of the imports has yet to arrive at the Indian ports from these countries. Other suppliers are Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, the Soviet Union and Nigeria.

An Indo

Mathew Zachariah

(The internationally known educator, Professor Paulo Freire of Brazil, was awarded the King Baudouin International Development Prize in Brussels, Belgium on November 15, 1980. I had nominated Freire for the award and had attended the award ceremony, at the invitation of the King Baudouin Foundation. The Canadian India Times readers might be interested in the circumstances leading to the establishment of the prize (which, in 1980, was worth three million Belgian francs) as well as the choice of Freire and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to jointly receive the prize for the first time in 1980.)

It is well-known that, since the early 1950's, Asian, African and Latin American societies have been engaged in a struggle to develop their material and human resources. The goals of this struggle have been to modernize the economies of these societies, to improve the living standards of their billions of poor people and to enable all the people to meaningfully participate in political and culture-creating activities. The story of this struggle has been one of many great, even tragic failures and a few successes. There are many more poor people in the world today especially in Sub-Saharan Africa than in 1950. According to World Bank and other reputable international institutions, the standard of living of the poorest of the poor people in the world has worsened in the past three decades. In contrast, the middle and upper classes in Asia, Africa and Latin America have more or less held on to their socio-economic position or improved it. For example, illiteracy among poor people is still rampant while the middle and upper classes have been able to increase and improve the number of years of schooling their children receive.

Third World

While the Third World (which includes most of Asia, Africa and Latin America with the notable exception of Japan) has been making little or no progress, the First World (which consists of wealthy Western Europe and North America) and the Second World (which consists of the USSR and Eastern Europe) have been recording steady and often spectacular progress. How may we account for the lack of progress or even retrogression of the economically poor Third World? Many of the reasons do arise from internal problems that the people in Third World societies have to overcome. But it is also widely acknowledged that there is a significant connection between the increasing wealth of the rich First World - which is mainly the countries of Europe, North America and Japan - and the increasing poverty of the Third World. The present international economic

An Indo-Canadian in the Belgian King's court

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NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Slowly, painfully slowly, at least some individuals and groups in the First World are beginning to realize one important fact: a world characterized by extreme disparities in levels of living in different continents will be a world of instability and violence. Such a world will be a geometrically enhanced replica of today's corrupt and violence-riddent countries where extreme wealth exists like luxury ships in a turbulent, stormy sea of poverty. Prime Minister Trudeau's recent visits to Europe, Africa and South America represented an effort to promote, among other things, interest in Canada in this problem. We must commend, him, a leader of a First World country, for demonstrating so much interest in the "North-South dialogue". The manner in which Canadian press reports dealt with his visits affirms, in my view, the need for better reporting on the international dimensions of the Third World's problems.

King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola of Belgium are two individuals who have become aware of the "North-South" problem, as it is now called. The charitable Foundation which carries the King's name had established in 1978 a prize "to reward persons who or organizations which, irrespective of their nationality, have made a substantial contribution to the development of the Third World..." One important stated reason for establishing the prize was "in deference to the wishes of His Majesty the King of Belgians". The Foundation decided to award the prize for the first time in 1980.

Information about the prize and the rules for making nominations were widely distributed in several countries. The President of the University of Calgary received this information. He passed it on to units interested in international development. I was one of the individuals who received a copy.

I have taught at this university about the role of education in the development of societies for the past fourteen years. One topic I have often discussed is Paulo Freire and his work. I became familiar with his work in 1970 when I read his **Pedagogy of the Oppressed** in English translation. (Freire told me in Brussels that this book has been translated into 2 or 3 Indian languages). Through a process of learning and teaching about Freire, I had begun to admire him and his work. Readers interested in Freire's work, however, are urged to start with **Education: The Practice of Freedom** (London: Writers and Readers Publishing Cooperative, 1973) before tackling **Pedagogy of the Oppressed.**

The author with Professor Paulo Freire on the campus of the Catholic University of Louvain near Brussels, Belgium. The lady is a diplomat from the Belgian Foreign Service who accompanied us.

Freire

Paulo Freire was born in 1921 in the city of Recife in Northeastern Brazil which is a very underdeveloped and poverty-stricken region. Although born of middle class parents, his family suffered poverty during the world-wide depression of the 1930's. His school education suffered during this period, especially when his father died. Working part-time, he managed to continue his studies and support his family. His work in the social work department of the State of Pernamburo brought him into direct contact with poor people. Freire has maintained throughout his life his interest in uplifting the poor. He received a Ph.D. degree in the History and Philosophy of Education from the University of Recife in 1959. In 1962, he became involved in the Popular Culture Movement which had the support of the Catholic Church and the government of President Goulart of Brazil. The movement attempted to make illiterate adults literate to enable them, among other things, to participate in elections because only literate adults can vote in Brazil. Experiences in this movement brought into sharp focus Freire's earlier dissatisfaction with traditional methods of literacy training for adults. He and his colleagues experimented with another method which proved to be astoundingly successful.

Here, I can only mention in bare outline the philosophy and techniques of the Paulo Freire Method.

Illiteracy

Freire recognized that the illiteracy of poor peasants and urban slum dwellers was part of the oppression from which they suffered. Therefore, a program for literacy training must not only teach such adults to read and write. It must also aim to give them a consciousness about their position in the world and give them political tools to overcome their oppression. This process of acquiring such knowledge and confidence is called **conscientization.** Freire turned his back on textbooks produced for illiterate adults by bureaucrats in places like the Ministry of Education. Instead, he and his colleagues spent time in villages and slums and listened to the vocabulary of the daily lives of the illiterate people. From this vocabulary, Freire chose words which would (i) help the people to learn the basic sounds of the language and (ii) build complex words from these sounds. The third criterion was that the words - like "house", "job", "water" - would enable the illiterate individuals to learn about their relationship to the natural world and the cultural world. (For example, the materials used to build a house depict our dependence on nature; the contrast between the mud house of the poor peasant and the brick house of the landlord reveals economic disparities which is part of culture in the anthropological sense of the word.) Thus the words led to dialogues which opened the eyes of the illiterate adults. These dialogues were led by educators who respected the knowledge of the illiterates and did not look down on them; to be illiterate is not to be ignorant.

The educators used cards and slides to assist the process of teaching and learning. They refrained, as much as possible, from "telling" and "lecturing". Freire's method was phenomenally successful since it motivated the poor people to learn to read and write for a purpose. But the method was strongly criticized as subvervise. Soon after President Goulart was overthrown by the Brazilian Military in 1964, Freire was arrested and jailed for seventy days. On his release, he went into exile in Chile where his method was accepted as part of the Christian Democratic government's attempt to promote citizen participation in national development. He left Chile in 1969 to accept a Visiting Professorship in Harvard University. In 1971, he was appointed as a special consultant to the World Council of Churches, Geneva. During the 1970's Freire visited numerous countries - including Canada and India - to assist groups which wanted to adopt and adapt his method. One of his visits to Canada resulted in a film "Starting from Nina" which dealt with the relevance of his methods to people, particularly working class immigrants, in this country. (The film is available from Development Education Centre, 121 Avenue Road, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2G3). In 1980, ending sixteen years of exile, he returned to Brazil to accept a professorship in Sau Paulo, the capital of Brazil. He continues to propagate his work there and in other countries.

Royal Treatment

Although I had never met him, on June 22, 1979 I mailed a letter to the King Baudouin Foundation nominating Freire for the International Development Prize. As days passed, I forgot about the letter. In June 1980 I received a cable in Singapore (where I was temporarily living) informing me that Freire and CGIAR had been jointly awarded the prize. I was delighted but my delight was even greater two months later when the Foundation informed me that Freire had requested that I be invited to be present at the Award ceremony at the Royal Palace in Brussels, capital of Belgium.

I could describe the lavish dinner and lunch at the National Bank of Belgium and the Royal Palace at Laekin, portray the pomp and glitter of the Award ceremony and report on the "royal" treatment I received in Brussels. But that would compel me to discuss the contradiction between these events and the work as well as message of the person who received the award. So I will record here only three things.

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Auroville

Communities of tomorrow 4

East Meets West: Auroville and the Tamil Villagers

Auroville seeks to be a birthplace of planetary culture. These early settlers realize they have a long way to go and that the path is full of all the obstacles that have caused conflict among people throughout the ages. Although few Latin Americans, Arabs, Africans, or Far East Asians are represented, Auroville nevertheless has the greatest mix of nationalities of any experimental, intentional community in the world. The current and most difficult cultural problem is building mutual understanding between the mostly Western Aurovilians and Tamil Indian villagers.

There are approximately 30,000 Tamil in the neighboring villages of Auroville who see these international pioneers more as a source of income than as an opportunity to transform human nature. The Tamil are among the poorest people in the world. Although many Aurovilians are frustrated by the cultural and language barriers, they know it is their country, they know it is their spiritual work to share consciousness, creating a planetary culture, and they know they need the Tamil labor to help build this city of tomorrow. Possibly as many as 800 Tamil are employed throughout Auroville.

Naturally, language is a major stumbling block. So Tamil is being learned. The Sri Aurobindo Society (SAS) has apparently paid villagers from time to time to beat up or harass Aurovilians, causing even more resentment. And then there is the world-wide problem between the rancher and the farmer. Villagers are used to allowing their goats and cows to graze anywhere and eat anything in sight including what the Aurovilian farmer has planted. The farmer puts up fences and the rancher wants to tear them down. Villagers have robbed the communities so often that it is standard practice to hire other Tamil villagers as watchmen to guard everything from newly planted trees to the Matrimandir construction site. In spite of all these problems, the relationship on a day-to-day basis seems quite pleasant.

Many villagers have received training in electricity, welding, horticulture, clerical skills, architecture, drawing, handicrafts, and mechanics from Aurovilians. Day care centers for village children have been set up in Fraternity and Udavi. And Tamil who feel they are now Aurovilians meet once a week to improve mutual understanding. Results are shared at the Pour Tous Meeting. Probably the most salient indicator is the slow but steady trend of Tamil villagers beginning to settle in Auroville as Aurovilians, making them the single largest nationality in this international experiment.

education in Auroville

Aurovilians say they are more satisfied with their state of health and medicine than with the education - especially for children. The Mother has said that no one should "own" children and that it is the community's responsibility to educate and heal the young. Children move among the adults with such abandon that one visitor called them "uncivilized". Possessiveness is still apparent among these children as they argue about "their place." There are two schools for children just beyond the walking stage. The quality of education goes up and down depending on who's willing to stay and teach. Now it's mostly entertainment and play. Since most members come to Auroville in their twenties, there are very few teenagers.

Hence, secondary or high school has not come into being. But more than that, there is a general resistance to the idea of education in a classroom. They wish their children to avoid the Industrial Age, the factory-style schools that they disliked in their youth.

Aurovilian children lack the fear that holds so many children back from exploring the unknown. They are tough pioneer children, more free than disciplined - happy but uneducated in academics. Secondly, they take for granted the many different ways adult Aurovilians act. Different houses, clothing, and languages are part of their world. Hence, they may have the advantage of a personality able to handle an increasingly diverse and changing world.

Auroville and the World

Although Auroville appears to be a most insignificant actor on this world stage, it has undertaken the most practical task of developing planetary civilization. The community members share a vision of the future put forward by Sri Aurobindo that forces them to daily work out social and technical problems with people from completely different national origins.

This effort to create planetary civilization is being undertaken in India - a nation whose problems are legendary as among the worst of any nation in the world. Further, Auroville is located in one of the harshest environments of India. But Auroville is making the land bloom, raising the water table, and creating places of such tranquil beauty that the word "paradise" easily comes to mind. If Aurovilians can create a transnational place of beauty, then it seems possible to create planetary civilization anywhere.

Auroville gives hope that a better world is possible. And in this time of cynicism and aimlessness, that hope is Auroville's most practical contribution to the world.

The end

Third World and western news media

By Francis Assisi

The fundamental doctrine of Western journalism - as exemplified by the four major news agencies, Associated Press (AP), United Press International (UPI), Agence France Presse (AFP, and Reuters -- is being increasingly challenged by the news media of Asian, African, and Latin American countries. The challenge and the complaint raised by developing countries like India is that Western news media are the instruments of "capitalist domination" and agents of "cultural imperialism" which the Third World countries would do well to eschew.

The international news agencies have a two-fold purpose. Their primary objective is the collection of news and distribution to their world-wide network of subscribers. The only other concern these agencies have is to sell the composite news output of their organization to local news media. Over the years, all of this has led to a massive imbalance of the international flow of news.

A Reuters fact sheet, for instance, notes that an average of 1.5 million words are sent out from its London headquarters each day. Gerald Long, general manager of Reuters in an interview referring to India as an example once said "we are sometimes accused of not doing what we have not set out to do. How can you give a complete picture of India in, say, 3000 words a day? No, we are not and we can't. We must operate on the principle of news as an exception".

It is in looking for the exceptional that the Western news media has failed to understand and correctly interpret developmental processes and minor shifts in age old traditions. And 3000 words for India out of a total of 1.5 million each day by the worlds largest news agency means 0.2 per cent for a country with nearly 20 per cent of the world's total population. Quite simply, India is shortchanged a hundredfold in terms of the volume of news coverage. One aspect of the problem is the attitude, the preferences and the prejudices of foreign newsmen in India. India, as well as the newly independent states of Africa, Asia and Latin America are today preoccupied with social and economic development. To these developing countries, but not to the Western correspondents, this development is what is new and relevant. The development, and indeed transformation that is going on all around is hardly ever noticed while events or issues that are insignificant or that in no way contribute to the progress of the nation, but rather create a bad image, get interpreted from the western point of view and are blown up out of all proportion. India thus receives the attention of the average American newspaper only when there is a riot, a religious rampage, a national catastrophe, or when those leaders who are not considered prowestern engage in outrageous or embarrassing acts. The sense of news value and the editorial judgements of the correspondents of the western news agencies are therefore a distinct impediment to the free flow of news from the Indian point of view.

The disposition of correspondents from the world's important news media says eloquently as to where the emphasis lies. Reuters has more regular staff in the U.S. than in all of Africa and Asia combined. AP and UPI (both American news agencies) have more correspondents in their London offices than in all of Africa. No wonder they still go on labelling Africa as the 'Dark Continent'.

Another insidious effect of the industrial world's domination of communication channels is the vast gap in the quality of coverage provided by Western agencies to the Third World media. Agency coverage in the Third World tends to seek simplistic solutions or Cold War interpretations to situations that are typically and uniquely Asian, African or Latin American. Convenient labels like anti-American or pro-Soviet when referring to a national leader or a nation can and do mislead. The news agencies of the West apply criteria to news selection that often reflects neither the interests nor the social realities of many Third World countries. A Tunisian journalist put it in perspective when he wrote: 'By offering the Third World only those items they have themselves broken down, filtered, expurgated and distorted, the big supranational news systems constrict the developing nations into having the same subjective vision of the world, and principally certain parts of the world, as they themselves. Consequently, some areas even though they are close to one another, only know of one another through the interposition of those supernational systems and have only vague notions gathered haphazardly from the international news agencies in their respective life styles, problems and aspirations'.

India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi put it quite bluntly when she reminded reporters at a conference on Third World journalists in New Delhi that "in spite of our political sovereignity, most of us who have emerged from a colonial and semi-colonial past continue to have a rather unequal cultural and economic relationship with our respective former overlords. Even our image of ourselves, not to speak of the view of other countries, tends to conform to theirs. The media of the powerful countries want to depict the governments of their erstwhile colonies as inept and corrupt and yearning for the good old days. This cannot be attributed to the common human failing of nostalgia. To a larger extent there is a deliberate purpose. We want to hear Africans on Africa. You should similarly be able to get an Indian explanation of events in India".

The central point that must be brought into focus is that information is a social good, not a commodity. And providing information is a social function; it should not be construed as a business transaction. Like all other social functions carried out on behalf of and for the service of the community, its exercise should not be left to the exclusive judgment of those involved in the activity in question. For the transmission of information confers power and every society should be organized so that those holding power are socially responsible for its use. Thus one finds in the commercial concept of news a built in systematic discrimination against those events that cannot be "sold" which therefore, in accordance with this rationale, are not 'news" because the controlling market has no interest in them. At the same time there is a tendency to distortion by the projection of those aspects of events that make them more marketable.

[continued Page 8]

Belgian court

Continuted from Page 5

The most important outcome of the visit for me was that I got to know Freire personally over a period of four days.

I also met a number of other people from the United Nations and the World Bank in Brussels; for example, Robert S. McNamara and Warren Baum of the World Bank, and William T. Mashler of the United Nations Development Programme. They had come to receive the Prize awarded to the CGIAR. (This Group has affiliates in several Third World nations and has supported reserach which, among other things, resulted in the development of the "miracle rice" and the "miracle wheat".)

On the day of the Award, Queen Fabiola had a long chat with me just before the lunch at the Royal Palace at Laeken. She expressed great admiration for India, and particularly for Mahatma Gandhi, whom she called "Gandhiji". She told me that she has visited India twd or three times and found it to be a country of amazing contrasts. For example, great wealth exists in the midst of widespread poverty; people of deep knowledge walk among multitudes of ignorant or illiterate people. I commented that reducing and eventually eliminating these "man-made", i.e. cultural, contrasts, was a great challenge. She replied "We must do what we can on the basis of our convictions even if we have to suffer".

She probably had Freire in mind. We need many more people like Freire to help us ecognize the innate, God-given worth of every human person irrespective of his or her social and economic position. Such recognition is the essential first step to construct a more just, new international economic, political and cultural order.

FILMS

KRANTI

Produced and directed by Manoj Kumar

India's freedom struggle against the British has been the subject of many an Indian film. Three among these relating to the First War of Independence (1857) stand out not only because they are associated with big names but also for the treatment, style and the aspects of Indian history they tackle: Sohrab Modi's **Jhansi Ki Rani**, Satyajit Ray's **Shatranj Ke Khiladi**, and Shyam Benegal's **Junoon**. They remind us of the people and princes of the Indian subcontinent and their aspiration for freedom. They fought to halt if not throw back the invading British armies and their Indian collaborators.

Kranti may not be, and is certainly not, in the same category, artistically speaking, as **Jhansi Ki Rani, Shatranj Ke Khiladi** and **Junoon**, but its subject matter, its stupendous technical values and huge stellar cast, make it is no less. Mounted with great care **Kranti** captures a kaleidoscope of Indian characters who participated in the freedom struggle. Sohrab Modi and Satyajit Ray did a lot of research on their themes but the same cannot be said of **Kranti** which is more in the realm of fiction.

Kranti has a prologue and an epilogue. In between is narrated in flashback the struggle of father and son, in their own individual way, against the British and their Indian henchmen. In the prologue, the old revolutionary (grandfather) entrusts his grandson (the young revolutionary's boy), the task of taking revenge on the traitors responsible for the death of his son. The epilogue shows the grandson confronting the villain in his bedroom, and killing him after a fight in the presence of the grandfather. The film is made in a style Manoj Kumar is famous for -- high-tension drama, rhetoric, stentorian dialogue, action, sensuality, sex and religious sentiments. Because of its universal appeal it will be popular with both urban and rural audiences. Its rural backdrop and princely order adding to its appeal.

Technically, it is a superb recreation of a period piece, except for a few flaws here and there. Its stereophonic soundtrack and skilful photography, some of it from unusual angles, crisp editing and powerful performance by almost the entire cast are its positive points. There have been many 70mm films after **Sholay** [1975], **Kranti** is the second-best in that gauge.

Dilip Kumar dominates the film as the senior revolutionary. One saw him on the screen after a long gap. His previous best was **Bairaag** in which he essayed three different roles, that of grandfather, son and grandson. His role in **Kranti** will be remembered for a long time, as it is at variance with his screen image, that of a forlorn lover. Nirupa Roy

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India's freedom struggle against the British has been the subject of many an Indian film. Three among these relating to the First War of Independence (1857) stand out not only because they are associated with big names but also for the treatment, style and the aspects of Indian history they tackle: Sohrab Modi's **Jhansi Ki Rani**, Satyajit Ray's **Shatranj Ke Khiladi**, and Shyam Bengal's **Junoon**. They remind us of the people and princes of the Indian subcontinent and their aspiration for freedom. They fought to halt if not throw back the invading British armies and their Indian collaborators.

Kranti may not be, and is certainly not, in the same category, artistically speaking, as **Jhansi Ki Rani, Shatranj Ke Khiladi** and **Junoon**, but its subject matter, its stupendous technical values and huge stellar cast, make it is no less. Mounted with great care **Kranti** captures a kaleidoscope of Indian characters who participated in the freedom struggle. Sohrab Modi and Satyajit Ray did a lot of research on their themes but the same cannot be said of **Kranti** which is more in the realm of fiction.

Kranti has a prologue and an epilogue. In between is narrated in flashback the struggle of father and son, in their own individual way, against the British and their Indian henchmen. In the prologue, the old revolutionary (grandfather) entrusts his grandson (the young revolutionary's boy), the task of taking revenge on the traitors responsible for the death of his son. The epilogue shows the grandson confronting the villain in his bedroom, and killing him after a fight in the presence of the grandfather. The film is made in a style Manoj Kumar is famous for -- high-tension drama, rhetoric, stentorian dialogue, action, sensuality, sex and religious sentiments. Because of its universal appeal it will be popular with both urban and rural audiences. its rural backdrop and princely order adding to its appeal.

Technically, it is a superb recreation of a period piece, except for a few flaws here and there. Its stereophonic soundtrack and skilful photography, some of it from unusual angles, crisp editing and powerful performance by almost the entire cast are its positive points. There have been many 70mm films after **Sholay** [1975]. **Kranti** is the second-best in that gauge.

Dilip Kumar dominates the film as the senior revolutionary. One saw him on the screen after a long gap. His previous best was **Bairaag** in which he essayed three different roles, that of grandfather, son and grandson. His role in **Kranti** will be remembered for a long time, as it is at variance with his screen image, that of a forlorn lover. Nirupa Roy plays the pathetic mother whose husband left her to become a firebrand revolutionary. Prem Chopra is an adept at playing the villain, in **Kranti** he plays it so powerfully that one starts hating him and only his death in the end brings one a sense of relief. Hema Malini has a significant role too. Manoj Kumar plays the younger revolutionary and hams it up. The character of Bharat may be his monopoly, but to play it the same way always has become another monopoly with him.

British characters in the film are reduced to stereotypes. Even Tom Alter, a sensitive American actor who has played the foreign character on the Indian screen quite often, is shown in a stereotype mould.

In one or two shots one notices the painted canvas in the British castle/prison. Obviously the set was painted on canvas but enough care was seemingly not taken to make it look real. Again one is not sure if aluminium tea kettles were in use in the middle of the last century.

NANI MAA

Directed by Parvati Menon
Produced by the Children's Film Society, India.

Parvati Menon is the production-in-charge of the Chilren's Film Society, India, a Government-aided organisation entrusted with the task of making purposeful and healthy films for children. During the last quarter century or so, the society has produced 80 feature films and 200 shorts.

Nani Maa is better than some of the CFS films of the recent past. It is a film with a message - people should work hard and not live on the hard work of others. Though it does not have many gags, the film would amuse children and keep them engaged in the film's narrative. Its plotline is in the style of folk tale - a greedy magician and a cunning villain want to get hold of a coded message which would lead them to a buried treasure. The secret document is in the possession of a middle-aged woman (Leela Misra) who guards it jealously. In her trials and tribulations she is helped by her two grandsons who do a couple of heroic jobs, not only to trace the document but also to subdue the villains.

The performances are on expected lines, the kids are not as precocious as they are depicted in commercial films. Leela Misra does not overact as she is often made to by commercial filmmakers. The king (Agha) is funnier than the magician, and the villains are stereotyped. The locales - ancient monuments and historical places - are refreshingly splendorous. Special effects for magic tricks could be better executed. We don't know how Parvati Menon, knowledgeable as she is about cinematography, could let it slip. The print screened at Chanakya had dark patches on the edges and some portions of it were scratchy.

The CFS could take up some topical themes too.

LOVE STORY

A Film by Rajendra Kumar

The film does not carry the director's name. Rahul Rawail started directing **Love Story** but had to give up owing to differences with the producer, Rajendra Kumar, who completed it. the film does not show it was directed by two different persons oldtimer Rajendra Kumar and newcomer Rahul Rawail. The film is in the style of a youth movie. Its theme has nothing to do with the Hollywood **Love Story** which in its tragic dimensions became the most popular film of its time, over a decade ago.

Love Story is woven round teenage romance that culminates in conjugal love. The teenage lovers overcome much violent opposition to their union as their respective fathers hate each other. The romance comes about by chance. Both leave home for different reasons, are forced to stay together and marry when faced with a common danger from a gang of criminals. **Love Story**, unlike the Hollywood film, ends on a happy note, Rajendra Kumar would not perhaps like the audience to go back home depressed.

Love Story could be called Rajendra Kumar's version of **Bobby**. The two films have many similarities. Two teenagers, madly in love, opposed by their parents who clash, confront and reconcile. The films differ in plotline and denouement. **Bobby** of course is better than **Love Story** in many respects. **Bobby's** musical score was greatly responsible for the film's popularity. **Love Story's** tunes are not catchy.

With Dimple, **Bobby's** leading lady, a new cine star was born overnight. The same cannot be said of Vijyta who also makes her debut in **Love Story**. The **Bobby** lovers had good rapport between them, in the **'Love Story** lovers one misses that. There was a touch of poetry in Raj Kapoor's **Bobby, Love Story** is all prose and some comedy, mostly through the character of a fumbling police constable (played by Amjad Khan). Hatred and enmity between the **Love Story** fathers is only professional and partly personal, in **Bobby** it was based on religion and class. **Love Story's** screenplay lacks logic, one could reason out almost everything in **Bobby**. However, in some respects **Love Story** is also an improvement on **Bobby**, especially in song sequences.

Kumar Gaurav's scrawny physique and jumpy style would have its own appeal with the teenagers, and petite Vijyta is sure to win their hearts too. The two newcomers have the possibility of striking a bettr rapport if paired together in more films. Oldtimers perform with the ease and confidence expected of them. Amjad Khan, Danny, Vidya Sinha, and Rajendra Kumar. Radhu Karmakar's photography, much of it outdoors, is of first grade. One wishes the same could be said of R D Burman's musical score. For a musical romance, the music is weak. The crime twist at the finale is so out of tune with the film's overall plot, that it seems to oe motivated by commercial considerations. Why did Rajendra Kumar yield to the temptation of action sequences when he condemned the same in the beginning of the film.

DARSHAK in Democratic World.

GUEST HOUSE [Hindi]

Directed by Tulsi Ramsay and Shyam Ramsay

Produced by Keshu Ramsay

The Ramsay brothers specialise in horror films. Theirs is a unique team in India, eight of them specializing in different departments of film-making: direction, story and screenplay, cinematography, audiography, production, etc. Their films are so methodically planned, even though they lack the technical finesse, that they succeed in their purpose of giving the audience a real horror film. Their last film **Saboot** was not so methodically crafted though.

Guest House is less so. There is half-hearted attempt to build an eerie atmosphere around happenings in a guest house where the medium is done to death in order to grab his money, by four keepers of the guest house. Nothing unusual happens when his body is buried. Things, including murders, start happening when the body is exhumed, a hand severed, and a bejewelled ring from the hand taken away by one of the four keepers. The severed hand buried at an isolated place starts moving and creeping through the doors, through the drains and through the cupboards, strangling the four culprit-keepers one by one. And even the...Let it remain a mystery.

Guest House (''The Severed Hand'' would have been an apter title) is poorly plotted and poorly mounted. It has crime and killing, it has comedy and romance, it has mystery and mystique, but less horror and lesser terror. Maybe, the Ramsay Brothers wanted **Guest House** to be an all-purpose film but the end-product is a no-purpose film. My right-hand companion in the theatre was a mechanic and he had come to experience a few moments of horror and fear, but he felt so disgusted with the comedy and romance sequences, which were quite frequent, that he uttered mouthful of expletives until the hand started moving and creeping, which was in the second half.

The actresses are all second-raters, though with a certain freshness about them - Padmini Kapila, Madhu Kapoor, Neelam and Meena T. Among the men, only Vijayendra is young, others - Narendranath, Sujit Kumar, Rajendranath, Dev Kumar, Pinchoo Kapoor have haggard faces. If one feels like dozing off in the **Guest House**, one would be welcome to it.

Third World...

continued.....

When the Third World leaders criticize the Western press for biased and distorted reporting, they are not, generally speaking, questioning the factual accuracy of Western news agencies or the honesty of their correspondents. Distortion, as Juan Somavia, director of the Latin American Institute for Transnational Studies in Mexico City, points out, "does not necessarily mean a false presentation of events but rather an arbitrary selection and a slanted evaluation of reality". The alleged objectivity of news presentations, according to him, is belied by an arbitray use of language, overemphasis on events of no real importance, and the general practice of "making news" by presenting "isolated facts" as a nonexistent whole. Pressed by the limitation of space and of time, Western correspondents tend to select only the news that they think is of interest to their readers or subscribers in the industrialized countries either because it is "sensational" or deals with something "strange or exotic". Wars, disasters, famines, riots, and political and military intrigues do make more readable copy than economic development. In this process, the information needs of the Third World are either forgotten or given short shrift.

Given the limited resources of the Third World, a practical solution according to Narinder K. Aggarwala, Information Officer for the United Nations Development program, "would be to set up a truly independent Third World News Agency (TWNA), capable of projecting multiple Third World perspectives in the world news in much the same way as AP, UPI, AFP, and Reuters project U.S., French and British perspectives in the news they disseminate". The establishment of such an agency or news pool should be regarded as a necessary and desirable step toward the setting up of a new and more equitable world order in the gathering and dissemination of news.

A first step in this direction has already been made with the Press Foundation of Asia's (PFA) DEPTHnews. A weekly news and feature service, DEPTHnews introduced and institutionalized the vital beat of developmental journalism in the Third World. Even before India and certain governments in Asia raised an outcry about imbalance in the world's news distribution, PFA had realized the need for generating more news and features from within the region for Asian newspapers. Whats more, PFA had also realized that what Asian newspapers needed most was a coverage that reflected social relevance and underlined a sense of commitment of Asian journalists to economic development in the broadest sense of the term.

Charges of racism in Bramlea

By Zubair Kashmeri

Avtar Singh came to Canada in 1975 looking for a good job and a decent life.

Now the Mississauga resident, who has been under psychiatric care for a year and a half, screams at his wife and three young daughters over minor incidents and takes anti-depressant pills. Sometimes on visits to his psychiatrist, he "weeps uncontrollably".

Mr. Singh's psychiatrist, Dr. Pieter Butler of Toronto, described to a Human Rights Commission hearing what racist treatment by some of his fellow workers in Canada had done to him: "He is a rather naive, trusting type of man, dedicated to his family life and not an aggressive type of person.... the effect on himself and his family life were quite severe...There is a change in his personality. He no longer behaves pleasantly."

Mr. Singh had worked for a glass plant in England, where he lived for 10 years before coming to Canada, and in July of 1975, he went to work for Domglas Ltd., now Domglas Inc., in Bramalea. Over the next three years he established an excellent work record as a machine operator at the bottle making plant.

Then in February of 1978, after being taunted by an apprentice who called him a Paki, Mr. Singh allegedly struck the man with a four-foot steel oiling stick. The apprentice, who wasn't injured, was suspended for two days for his part in the incident. Mr. Singh was fired.

Mr. Singh's firing was appealed by his union, Local 260 of the International Glass and Ceramic Workers of North America, to a labor arbitration board set up to hear the case. Ten months after he was fired, the board ruled he had been the victim of racial discrimination, and ordered the company to reinstate him. Mr. Singh still works for Domglas.

Mr. Singh also went to the Ontario Human Rights Commission and asked for compensation from the company on the grounds of racial harassment. After holding hearings into the matter starting in May, 1980, the board ruled that Mr. Singh had been fired under a recently formulated company policy to discourage fighting in the plant, not because he was an East Indian.

The rights commission ruling has left Ontario's 60,000-member Sikh community bitter and angry, according to Jawala Singh Grewal of Bramalea, the 38-year-old general secretary of the Canadian Council of Sikhs.

The council, which broke off with the Ontario Human Rights Commission and set up its own racial hotline last summer, has decided to collect "even a million dollars" to appeal the commission's ruling, Mr. Grewal said

Racism has long been a problem at the Domglas plant, according to many who either now or have in the past worked there. Out of a workforce of 500, there are about 50 blacks and about 50 Asians, many of whom distrust both the company and the union, which, they say, does little to protect them from racial abuse.

Evidence at the two hearings showed that for years the minorities have been ridiculed through posters and graffiti painted on walls and in the washrooms, slipped into toolboxes and into showcases, and once even on the union bulletin board.

Gordon Shamanski, Domglas's director of industrial relations, called the allegations of racism a fabrication and pointed to the fact that the company has a few Asian foremen and supervisors. He said it was impossible to stop graffiti writing.

Mr. Singh and other workers, including two former union officials, said in interviews that supervisors harass black and Asian workers by giving them more machines to work on, assigning them the hardest physical labor and making them stand in front of furnaces on hot days. They said white machine specialists often refuse to co-operate with minority workers when machines break down.

Former union vice-president Iftikhar Wakil said the union co-operated with the supervisors in this harassment. And David Clark, a black who was president of the local until 1976, resigned over the issue of racism and discrimination "at the plant and in the union."

Reached in Port of Spain, Trinidad, where he is now working at the Carib Glass Factory (he left Domglas in September, 1979), he said that the union international would send his discrimination grievances back asking him not to file such grievances. He said he was ignored by supervisors when he complained about racism.

Mr. Wakil said that the minority workers swallow the daily insults out of fear of reprisals from co-workers, union officials and supervisors and are often afraid to file grievances. He said that during his 1979-80 term, it took a lot of persuading by him to get minority workers to file about 25 grievances.

Mr. Singh said the union delayed his arbitration and kept putting it off, a charge which Gary Joseph, former president of the union local denied. He called the delay a legitimate one.

In any case, Mr. Joseph said, Paki is simply a short form for Pakistani as Newfie is for a Newfoundlander. He said that arbitration was decided upon because the term "black bastard" was used and considered racial.

[The Globe and Mail]

Rare painting for sale

New Delhi, (UNI) - One of the portrait groups painted by Zoffany in India in the 1780s is to be auctioned for the first time, as far as can be ascertained. Sotheby's are to offer for sale "Colonel Blair with his family and ayah" on March 18 and are talking of a price around $315,000, according to The Times, London.

Zoffany, who was born in Germany, became one of the luminaries of the British portrait school; he worked extensively for George III and Queen Charlotte and won particular success with his scenes from contemporary theatrical productions under Garrick's influence.

He was in India from 1783 to 1789 but only about a dozen pictures from that period survive, about half in the Calcutta Museum, and the others mostly with the families for which they were painted. The climate has not been kind to those that have remained in India.

The paintings to be sold by Sotheby's is a work of outstanding charm; it stands comparison with the best of Zoffany's work, whether executed in Britain, Germany, Italy or India.

Telugu souvenir to be published

The Third North American Telugu Conference will be held in Chicago during May 23-24, 1981. This Conference is a forum for discussion of the current issues affecting Telugus in North America and is also a major cultural event with music, dance, drama and an art exhibition. Many distinguished Telugu people both from North America and India are expected to attend this Conference.

A souvenir will be released in commemoration of this Conference. Cover design and articles are invited for this souvenir.

Cover design shall be 8½" x 11" and suitable for the occasion. An advance rough sketch and description will be required.

The articles shall preferably be in Telugu generally relating to the life of the Telugus living in North America. the articles should be originals and not to exceed 3 printed pages. They should be accompanied by the name, address, telephone number, and a recent black and white photograph of the author.

Pictures and photographs sent for publication should be in black and white and should not exceed 6½" x 8".

There will also be a small English section in the souvenir. All articles and pictures should reach us before August 31, 1980. The Souvenir Committee shall have all the rights in the articles/pictures accepted for publication.

For further particulars, please contact the Convenor of the Conference:

Tirupataiah Tella
744 Franklin St.
Westmont, Illinois 60559
Tel: [312] 920-0030

Joint ventures

New Delhi, (UNI) - India and Bahrain may undertake joint ventures for construction works in Bahrain.

The proposal has been made by Dr. Abdul Latif Kanoo, Permanent Under-Secretary, Bahrain's Ministry of Housing, currently on a visit to India.

While holding discussions with S.C. Kapoor, chairman-cum-managing director of the National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC), Dr. Kanoo invited him to visit Bahrain to initiate the process of identification of joint ventures.

THE NEW MINIMUM WAGE RATES IN ONTARIO

New Minimum Wage rates will go into effect March 31st, 1981.
A further increase will go into effect October 1, 1981.

	Effective March 31st	Effective October 1st
General hourly rate	$3.30	$3.50
Learner hourly rate	$3.20	$3.40
Student hourly rate	$2.45	$2.65
Liquor Licensed premises hourly rate	$2.80	$3.00
Construction hourly rate	$3.55	$3.75

Additional information may be obtained from the Employment Standards Branch, Ontario Ministry of Labour, in the following cities:

TORONTO
400 University Avenue
M7A 1V2
Tel: (416) 965-5251

HAMILTON
1 West Avenue South
L8N 2R9
Tel: (416) 527-2953

KENORA
808 Robertson Street
P9N 1X9
Tel: (807) 468-3128

KINGSTON
1055 Princess Street
K7L 1H3
Tel: (613) 542-2853

KITCHENER
824 King Street West
N2G 1G1
Tel: (519) 744-8101

LONDON
205 Oxford Street East
N6A 5G6
Tel: (519) 439-3231

OTTAWA
2197 Riverside Drive
K1H 7X3
Tel (613) 523-7530

ST. CATHARINES
205 King Street
L2R 3J5
Tel: (416) 682-7261

SAULT STE. MARIE
390 Bay Street
P6A 1X2
Tel: (705) 949-3331

SUDBURY
199 Larch Street
P3E 5P9
Tel: (705) 675-4455

THUNDER BAY
435 James Street South
P7E 6E3
Tel: (807) 475-1691

TIMMINS
273 Third Avenue
P4N 1E2
Tel: (705) 267-6231

WINDSOR
500 Ouellette Avenue
N9A 1B3
Tel: (519) 256-8278

For toll free numbers check the government listings in your local telephone directory.

Ministry of Labour
Ontario
Employment Standards Branch

Sarasvati po

By Nicholas Read
Sun Religion Reporter

The statue is milk-white, made from the pith of mimosa, an aquatic plant native to the tropics. It is an Indian woman sitting on a lotus flower, a pet swan by her side. She plays hymns from the Rig Veda, the most sacred and ancient scriptures of Hinduism on a long stringed instrument, the veena.

She is Sarasvati, the Hindu goddess of learning, and she sits at the head of the prayer hall in the Vishva Hindu Parishad (World Hindu Society) temple on Albert Street in Burnaby.

It is at the focus of the congregation's attention today.

"We don't believe that these statues are themselves goddesses or gods, but merely the images and representations of one omnipotent god," says Dr. Satyendra Banerjee, a volunteer Hindu priest at the temple, and president of the Bengali Cultural Association.

"We show them deference only for the sake of the deity whom they represent, and when we pray, it is not to the statue, but to that deity. Images are admitted in our temples because we conceive that prayers are offered up with more devotion when there is something before the eye that fixes the mind."

The day is set aside by close to 5,000 Hindus in the Lower Mainland to honor Sarasvati through an elaborate ceremony involving prayers, ritual and offerings of flowers, sweets, fruit, scented oil and honey brought to the goddess as tokens of the congregation's respect and deference.

Though Sarasvati is one of many Hindu deities, Hinduism is essentially a monotheistic faith, Banerjee says, where each diety is merely a symbol of a certain aspect of God.

"In fact, there are 330 million dieties," he says.

"Each human being is, symbolically, a representation of godliness. Anything which shows power or even viciousness is a representation of God."

Banerjee is dressed in a white dhoti, the traditional garb of an Indian priest. He has been at the temple since early morning, preparing both himself and the hall for a day of prayer and celebration conducted according to the customs and traditions of the Bengal region of India.

After purifying himself and the statue through the chanting of Vedic hymns, Banerjee begins his worship of Lord Ganesh, the Hindu elephant god of wisdom and success. "No matter what deity we are worshipping, we must always start by worshipping Lord Ganesh in order to bring success to the day," he says.

He then begins to impart "life" into the statue, again through the chanting of Vedas, or psalms of praise. A holy fire is built in the **havan kunda**, a small iron pot placed under a canopy, and verses are recited requesting that all living things be blessed. Offerings of sandalwood and clarified

Sarasvati pooja

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He then begins to impart "life" into the statue, again through the chanting of Vedas, or psalms of praise. A holy fire is built in the **havan kunda**, a small iron pot placed under a canopy, and verses are recited requesting that all living things be blessed. Offerings of sandalwood and clarified butter are then made to the flames.

The fire itself, Banerjee says, is representative of the one omnipotent formless God.

"Fire is the mouth of the God. Whatever you offer is consumed."

An invocation to all living things, the earth and all heavenly bodies is offered, and the congregation prostrates itself as a symbol of its total surrender to the goddess.

According to strict Indian custom, the statue should actually be immersed in a river and left to dissolve on the river bed. But given the expense, the immersion now is a "mental" process, where the "light" imparted into the statue at the beginning of the ceremony is removed at the end.

Before the ritual is complete, children aged four and five will receive a ceremonial introduction to reading and writing, in keeping with Sarasvati's station as the patron of letters, arts and sciences. And because the goddess is credited with starting the Sanskrit language in which the ceremony is conducted, they may be called upon to learn the first letter of the Sanskrit alphabet during the service. Hindi, Bengali and English are also possible alternatives, Banerjee says.

Children studying Indian customs and language in a number of temples classes will perform songs, skits and dances tonight. But Banerjee says the religious and cultural aspects of Hinduism are used every day of the year.

"Our religion and culture are so interminglied," he says. "I cannot have my culture without being a Hindu."

(The Vancouver Sun).

Federation of Sikh societies meets

In pursuance to the directive given to the Federation of Societies representing Sikhs in Canada, the 1st meeting of the National Ad-hoc Committee was held on Saturday February 7th, 1981.

After offering prayers and seeking blessings of the Sat Guru, the meeting opened at the beautiful Guru Nanak Centre Bow Trail Gurdwara Sahib in Calgary. The meeting was hosted by the Sikh Society, Calgary.

Since its inception, the National Ad-hoc Committee had been soliciting comments, exciting discussion and developing consensus on the 1st draft of the Constitution of the Federation which was proposed at the Sikh Conference 1980 in Ottawa. All delegates presented various views and thoughts of their respective organisations. Regretably, Quebec was not represented on the Committee. Every aspect of the Constitution was fully considered and thoroughly discussed. By the end of the day, a consensus on the Constitution satisfying the various views on issues was reached. It was decided that the 2nd draft incorporating the points discussed, be prepared and readied by the 1st week of March 1981. This version will be sent to the delegates to solicit further input and advice from the various societies and institutions in their regions. Copies of the revised version are available from the Ottawa Sikh Society, 20C Arnold Drive, Ottawa (Ontario) K2H 6V9 (Tel. No. 613-829-3729).

Considering the importance of the document, it is desired that maximum number of people and especially those having special knowledge of the subject, should scan it and offer suggestions/comments for improvement/inclusion in the Constitution. The Ad-hoc Committee expects an encouraging response.

The Ad-hoc Committee will re-assemble for two days during May 1981 to discuss fresh inputs and to prepare the final draft of the Constitution. Those interested to put forward their view point in person are welcome. The revised draft would be evaluated de novo before presenting at the All Canada Sikh Convention 1981 at Calgary on August 2.

Other administrative details akin to setting up the office of the Federation and matters such as Finances were also discussed.

On February 8th, the Ad-hoc Committee had very fruitful discussions with the Organisation Committee of the 1981 Convention. The National Ad-hoc Committee extended full support and all the delegates expressed their willingness to undertake administrative tasks for achieving a successful Convention.

Coming events

THE VEDANTA SOCIETY OF TORONTO, is arranging three public lectures by **Swami Tathagathananda** on April 8, 9 and 10, at 7:30 p.m. at 12 MacPherson Avenue.

All programs are free and open to everyone.

For further information, please call, **Dr. Arvind Menon**, at 493-5772.

Vocalist to tour N.America

DR. PRABHA ATRE of S.N.D.T. University of Bombay proposes to undertake a tour of the United States and Canada in September 1981 along with a percussionist.

During the tour, she hopes to give concerts and lecture/demonstrations in Hindustani Classical Vocal Music, conduct workshops and take up assignment as a visiting professor for a short term.

A talented and much sought-after vocalist in Hindustani Music, Dr. Prabha Atre has also earned herself a place of distinction as a brilliant musical thinker and composer. Assistant Producer for ten years in all India Radio and now Reader and Head of the Department of Music in Bombay's progressive SNDT Women's University, Dr. Atre has a rare blend of musical artistry and insight. Her doctorate thesis was on 'Sargam' (singing note-names): **Its Evolution, Aesthetic Enrichment and Future.** Her articles ranging from musical forms, aesthetics and education, to sketches of great musicians, are noted for their discernment and clarity and they have been published in many journals and newspapers. Her concerts and lecture-demonstrations in India and abroad to audiences of varying tastes have always been highly appreciated. She has been featured frequently on television and radio.

They were elected

DESHANTARI [BENGALI ASSN.], OTTAWA.

President: **Ashit Hazra,**
Vice-president: **Jayanti Roy,**
Secretary: **Meena Sarkar,**
Treasurer: **Arun Sarkar,**
Members: **Arun Ghosh, Ranjana Roy**
Past President: **Atulesh Nandi,**
Past Treasurer: **Sumit Banerji.**

Glass container of N-W waste

Calcutta, (UNI) - The Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute here has developed a glass for containing hazardous radioactive waste, according to a paper distributed at the 45th session of the Indian Ceramic Society here.

BAZM-E-ADAB, OTTAWA

presents

Sabri Brothers

highly acclaimed Kawals from Indo-Pak subcontinent on May 1, 1981 at 7:30 p.m. at High School of Commerce, 300 Rochester St., Ottawa. For further information, please call

Krishan Uppal — 824-6339
Anwar Ansari — 226-5539
Joginder Singh — 746-8842

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A non-aligned centre

New Delhi, (UNI) - The non-aligned countries decided to set up in India during this year a non-aligned centre for science and technology to facilitate co-operation in the field.

The Economic Committee of the non-aligned foreign ministers' conference accepted India's proposal to set up the centre. A conference spokesman said the centre would be financed by all the non-aligned countries.

The committee also endorsed a proposal by Madagascar to establish three funds for the non-aligned countries. They are: A common monetary fund, a commodity stabilisation fund and a development fund.

Technical know-how valued

New Delhi, (UNI) - With 204 joint ventures operating abroad the efficacy of India's technology is being established in third countries and prospect of further expansion is bright, according to Indian industrialist H.S. Singhania.

Addressing a conference on "India as a world trading partner," organised by the "Financial Times" of London and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Singhania said the total Indian equity investment in these joint enterprises was of the order of 120 million dollars. As many as 117 enterprises were under production and 87 under implementation.

Indian experts abroad

New Delhi, (UNI) - During the year 1980 under the bilateral programme as many as 1,097 experts in various technical and professional fields were selected for assignments in as many as 21 countries. Indian experts, on account of their professional skill and experience have been in great demand from a large number of countries.

In fact, ever since India embarked on this policy of making available trained manpower to help developing countries, this demand has been increasing from year to year.

India, as the third largest reservoir of trained manpower in the world after USSR and the US, has been a natural source for these countries in view of the many trade and other links established between India and these countries.

INDIA CONSIDERING PURCHASE OF FRENCH DEFENCE AIRCRAFT

New Delhi, (UNI) - France has offered to India the Super Puma anti-submarine warfare helicopters.

Its manufacturers, the French Aviation Firm Aerospatiale, are now in touch with the Defence Authorities regarding the possible sale of this helicopter to India.

India has been looking for some additional helicopters for anti-submarine warfare role.

Drug addiction treatment

Calcutta, (UNI) - Drug addicts can be "effectively" treated by the electro-acupuncutre method.

In a report circulated among the participants of the Third International Congress of the World Federation of Public Health Association recently, Indian scientists claim to have found that acupuncture brings significant changes in the drug addicts. The treatment brings about changes more particularly in the "glucocorticoids, mineralocorticoids and even sex hormone staroids".

HONG KONG TRADE INVITED TO INVEST IN INDIA

Hong Kong, (UNI) - A delegation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) now touring South-East Asia, has offered its Hong Kong counterpart investment opportunities in Indian industry.

ADB projects for India

New Delhi, (UNI) - India ranked fourth, ahead of France, Germany and the Scandinavian countries, in bagging projects financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) last year.

Out of the 13.7 million dollars spent by the ADB during September 1979 to September 1980, Indian enterprises cornered 7.5 per cent of the projects financed.

Only Canada, US and the United Kingdom are ahead of India. The Bank, which pooled the resources of member countries, advanced loans to developing countries for various projects.

Watermelon juice plant

Calcutta, (UNI) - The Sundarbans Development Board (SOB) proposes to set up a plant at the Sagar Island in the Bay of Bengal to produce watermelon juice and squash, according to an SDB source.

Described as a "new line of venture", the plant will be set up with technical assistance from Jadavpur University. A group of food technologists of the University has developed a technique for the processing of watermelon, a summer delicacy.

The proposal to set up the plant aims at making the watermelon cultivation profitable for the farmers and popularising its juice and squash.

Women breadwinners

Aurangabad (Maharashtra) (UNI) - Women are gradually emerging as the primary bread-winners for a large number of poor families in rural areas where child labour is also on the increase, according to a study.

The study, conducted by the Indian Institute of Rural Workers here, says that nearly three-fourths of the working women in the country are engaged in farming and non-farming activities in the villages.

Yet, the study regrets, rural women generally are not aware of their rights.

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Multiculturalism

Canada

Honourable Jim Fleming, Minister of State, Multiculturalism
L'honorable Jim Fleming, Ministre d'Etat, Multiculturalisme

KITCHEN K

By Pranati SenGupta

No one can deny the fact that appliances on the market for the past the food processor and the microwa revolutionary developments in ki recent years are ultimate tools for pe

Most people I know have the fo thinking seriously of buying one. processor for over 2 years, I can say food processors are finding their way kitchens, so are books devoted to machine is so easy to use that anybo from a regular cookbook.

Generally a food processor come booklet and a small cookbook bu difficulty using it, she may atten course offered by the manufacture processor cooking class. It is not s Indian cooking which requires a lot kneading and dicing of ingredients with a processor. It replaces a blen grinder, grater, slicer, ice crusher, knife and dough kneader. It spe slicing and pureeing of ingredien cooking. The only thing, I find, whipping the cream or beating egg

Some of its most elegant creatio sweet dishes. It kneads channa creamy state in a second for rosogu other sweets. The food processo greatest boon to hasty and tasty c

Students in my cooking classes (m who love Indian food but do not lik so much time in the kitchen a processor immensely. Thanks to can blend dal (lentils), fresh coco without liquid to a paste in secon recipes require. It makes wond bread.

Chappati Dough

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 cup whole wheat flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
2 tbsp. oil
About 1 cup water.

Insert steel blade. Place flours, oil in bowl; process, using on/o particles form. With machine ru through feed tube (it may not nee ball of dough forms. Take the dou pieces with a knife and put bac again until it forms into a ball ag three times until dough is very sm dough and shape into flattened b diameter. Place balls in greased damp towel. Let stand 30 minutes a little flour and roll out to a 1/1 griddle and turn the Chappati int bubble rises in the bread, turn u another few seconds. Put the bre handle and hold directly over hig the bread puffs up.

Paratha Dough:

1½ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup whole wheat flour
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. baking powder
2½ tbsp. ghee or shortening
½ cup plain yogurt
little water

Insert steel blade. Place fl powder and yogurt in bowl; technique, until small particle running, add very little water th the dough forms into a ball. C

again for three times until dough as for "Chappati", but instead wire rack, add 1 tbsp. of shorte about 1 minute until light gol heat).

Kuwait buys

New Delhi, (UNI) - Exports from India to Kuwait have registered a four-fold increase in the five years from Kuwait dinars 12.9 million in 1974 to kd 52.4 million in 1979, according to the Central Bank of Kuwait in Bombay (1 kd = 3.69 dollars).

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

No one can deny the fact that the hottest kitchen appliances on the market for the past five years have been the food processor and the microwave oven. These two revolutionary developments in kitchen equipment of recent years are ultimate tools for people who love to cook.

Most people I know have the food processor or are thinking seriously of buying one. After owning a food processor for over 2 years, I can say it is a treasure. As food processors are finding their way into more and more kitchens, so are books devoted to their use. But this machine is so easy to use that anybody can adapt a recipe from a regular cookbook.

Generally a food processor comes with an instruction booklet and a small cookbook but if the owner finds difficulty using it, she may attend some introductory course offered by the manufacturers or enroll in a food processor cooking class. It is not surprising to find that Indian cooking which requires a lot of chopping, grinding, kneading and dicing of ingredients can be done quickly with a processor. It replaces a blender, food mixer, meat grinder, grater, slicer, ice crusher, grinding stone, chef's knife and dough kneader. It speeds up the chopping, slicing and pureeing of ingredients required in Indian cooking. The only thing, I find, it does not do well is whipping the cream or beating egg white.

Some of its most elegant creations are various Indian sweet dishes. It kneads channa (Indian cheese) to a creamy state in a second for rosogulla, cheese cake or any other sweets. The food processor is this generation's greatest boon to hasty and tasty cooking.

Students in my cooking classes (mostly working people) who love Indian food but do not like the idea of spending so much time in the kitchen are enjoying the food processor immensely. Thanks to the food processor, we can blend dal (lentils), fresh coconut and spices with or without liquid to a paste in seconds just the way Indian recipes require. It makes wonderful dough for Indian bread.

Chappati Dough

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 cup whole wheat flour
½ tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
2 tbsp. oil
About 1 cup water.

Insert steel blade. Place flours, salt, baking powder and oil in bowl; process, using on/off technique, until small particles form. With machine running, add water slowly through feed tube (it may not need all the water) until one ball of dough forms. Take the dough out and cut into small pieces with a knife and put back in the bowl. Process again until it forms into a ball again, repeat this process three times until dough is very smooth. Break off pieces of dough and shape into flattened balls, about 1½ inches in diameter. Place balls in greased bowl or plate; cover with damp towel. Let stand 30 minutes before rolling dust with a little flour and roll out to a 1/16'' round. Heat an iron griddle and turn the Chappati into it; wait until the first bubble rises in the bread, turn using a spatula and cook another few seconds. Put the bread on a wire rack with a handle and hold directly over high heat of the stove until the bread puffs up.

Paratha Dough:

1½ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup whole wheat flour
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. baking powder
2½ tbsp. ghee or shortening
½ cup plain yogurt
little water

Insert steel blade. Place flours, ghee, salt, baking powder and yogurt in bowl; process, using on/off technique, until small particles form. With machine running, add very little water through feed tube until just the dough forms into a ball. Cut the dough and process again for three times until dough is smooth. (Do the same as for ''Chappati'', but instead of putting the bread on wire rack, add 1 tbsp. of shortening or butter and fry for about 1 minute until light golden brown (over medium heat).

Kuwait buys more

New Delhi, (UNI) - Exports from India to Kuwait have registered a four-fold increase in the five years from Kuwait dinars 12.9 million in 1974 to kd 52.4 million in 1979, according to the Central Bank of Kuwait in Bombay (1 kd = 3.69 dollars).

But imports from Kuwait have not increased to that extent. According to the figures available with the Central Bank of Kuwait, imports to India from Kuwait were valued at kd 25.9 million in 1976, which increased to kd 28.1 million in 1977. But in 1979, the figure came down to kd. 26.6 million.

More garments to W.Asia

New Delhi, (UNI) - The ready-made garments industry in India has registered a sharp growth in exports during the last decade in response to the demand for fashion and standard garments from the Western world.

Apart from the exports to West Asian countries, the major quota countries are the United States, the European Economic Community and the Nordic nations. During 1980, 45 million dollars were earned through exports in these countries as against 41.9 million dollars in 1979.

Folk drama neglected

New Delhi, (UNI) - Bhavai, the 700-year-old folk drama form from the west Indian State of Gujarat is dying slowly because of lack of patronage and the influence of modern theatre, according to award-winning Bhavai artiste Chimanbhai Nayak.

Mr. Nayak (55), has been chosen for the Sangeet Natak (Song and Dance) Akademy award for the year 1980. He is the first ever Bhavai artiste to achieve this distinction.

Mr. Nayak told UNI that although cultural organisations had been trying to revive it, Bhavai had been losing its original form over the years. The advent of modern plays and movies had further contributed to its neglect.

In the past Bhavai had all male characters. Even the female roles were performed by male artistes on an open stage.

Bhavai is essentially a historical, social or religious narrative in line and verse. It also has a didactive value.

Asait Thakar of Siddhapur town of Mehasana district in Gujarat, was the exponent of this form of folk art. He was patronised by the local Raja. The Raja also popularised the art in rural areas for public entertainment. Originally, Bhavai had about 360 sequences which have now been reduced to only twenty.

Film venture with Sri Lanka

New Delhi, (UNI) - The shooting of ''Vijay in Lanka'' the first Indo-Sri Lanka co-production in Hindi, will begin in Sri Lanka by the middle of the year.

The film, to be produced by N.B. Kamat of Bombay and Nippon Movies of Sri Lanka, will be directed by Sri Lanka filmmaker Amarnath Jayatilaka, who has also written the story and screen-play. it will have artistes and technicians from India and Sri Lanka.

An action-thriller, the film is based on actual events concerning smuggling in India and Sri Lanka.

While the costs entailed in Sri Lanka will be borne by the Sri Lanka side, the processing costs will be borne by the Indian producer.

Indian official, know thy country

Are you often surprised that an average Canadian does not know whether a Hindu speaks Hindi or a Hindi speaks Hindu?

In their knowledge of India, the Indian High Commission in Ottawa is no better. In the February 1, 1981 issue of a new Malayalam fortnightly, The Kerala Prabha, the High Commissioner Mr. G.S. Dhillon has made a similar mistake. He does not know whether a Malayalee speaks Malayalam or a Malayalam speaks Malayalee.

In a message sent to that paper Mr. Dhillon says that the new publication ''will be welcomed by all Malayalee speaking countrymen...''

Let us get it straight: The language is Malayalam; the people are Malayalees.

Research grants awarded

The following are among the recipients of research grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Administrative Studies

Mahesh C. Pradhan with Kunj B. Pradhan, University of Windsor
Ethnomusicology: study of folk music of two low Caste groups ($8,200)

Economics

Kul Bhatia, University of Western Ontario
Intermediate goods and tax-incidence theory ($8,777)

Law

Manabharana Marasinghe, University of Windsor
Law and development in Sri Lanka within a historical perspective, 1796-1977 ($3,350)

Poet's corner

THE POSSESSIONS

The thrills of childhood
The frantic runs around the winding paths
The chasing of butterflies
The giggling laughters
The excitement of Smells and Sounds

The Simplest Joys!

The dawn of blithful youth
The passionate hearts
The privacy of thoughts
The silent expressions
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So true and meaningful!

The purposeful goals
The determination to achieve
The dedicated toils
The joys of involvement
The glory of success

The complex simplified!

The infinite mind
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If understood
Our greatest possession

The Heavenly Bliss!

Shankar Mehta
Ottawa

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EASTER LOVE SONG

At last love has arrived
Leaving bitter days behind.

Blue eyed blossoms now
Are kissed by Birds of Paradise.

The agony and the ecstasy
The winter and the spring;

Tender green blades breathing
Through the melting ice again.

Shelly sang of you
When the 'West Wind' churned his mind;

Eternal Life springing anew
'Gain and 'gain through ages.

Yesterday you bled;
Gone for e'er I thought;

Today you rise e'er afresh;
Your wounds hard to see.

At last love has arrived
Leaving bitter days behind.

George Isaac

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Khatri boy, 30-35, preferably professional for Khatri girl, working Canadian citizen. Write M-1773, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from doctor, engineer, accountant, or other career person for a beautiful, intelligent, Jat-Sikh Canadian citizen girl, 22, educated in Canada; B.Sc and Diploma in Education, currently employed. Apply M-1774, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from a tall, professionally qualified young man for our duaghter, charming, pretty, 5'-3", 22, R.N. working. Well settled Arora family in Toronto. Caste no bar. M-1775, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a Canadian immigrant Jat-Sikh girl, 21 year old, beautiful and good natured. Only Canadian/U.S. citizens or immigrants need apply. 5245 Jeanne-Mance, Montreal, Quebec 514-273-8015.

Suitable match preferably in Canada for a divorced Rajput girl, 25, attractive, homely, M.A. Economics, working in States. Also for her younger brother, 23, graduate, extremely handsome, tall and athletic, working in India. Caste no bar. M-1737, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from well cultured Gujarati girl from respectable family for our brother, 28, handsome, M.S., currently in Canada. Girl's merits main consideration. Call 521-1051 (Ottawa).

Matrimonial correspondence invited from well-educated and nice-looking ladies over 25 for a Bengali Hindu bachelor, highly-qualified engineer and well-settled in Los Angeles (California). Caste and regional differences no bar. Please call (213) 893-8686 or write to: Purkayastha, Apt. 9, 15210 Roscoe Blvd., Panoroma City, California 91402, USA.

Punjabi girl, 29, divorced, no children, educated, slim, fair, invites matrimonial correspondence. Call (416) 752-9688 or write 1840 Victoria Park Avenue, Unit 1012, Scarborough, Ontario Canada M1R 1S9.

Girls dwindling

Port Blair, (UNI) - Potalai, a 35-year-old Onge youth, is sad because he cannot marry. His gloom is evident. Another three youths who also have to remain bachelors are Erabegi (35, Nebai (28) and Oroti (16).

A group of newsmen who recently visited the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal along with the census party, found out that the absence of girls of marriageable age has produced gloom in the already dwindling primitive tribe, the Andaman Onges.

The newsmen found that there are at least five eligible, willing bachelors, four of them living in the South Bay Settlement, while the fifth, Ramu, a seaman, belongs to the Dugoan Creek Settlement. Both the South Bay and the Dugoan Creek Settlements are in the Little Andaman Island.

The widely prevalent widow system has also arrested the growth of population of the tribe. By social custom, a widow has the first preference of marrying an Onge youth. As a result, Onge youths are compelled to marry old women who have crossed the age of bearing an offspring.

In South Bay, a 30-year-old Natotoruli has married a 60-year-old Mayamboi. In the Dugoan Creek Settlement eight such marriages have taken place, according to the social workers there.

Added to this, women and children in the tribe suffer from various diseases. The nurse in charge of the Dugoan Creek Dispensary has said diseases like diarrhoea occurred frequently; anaemea and tuberculosis also afflict the community.

The tribals here have yet to develop the habit of taking food at regular intervals and although they are supplied with clothes, they prefer to go naked.

More jewellery exports

New Delhi, (UNI) - Export of Indian gold jewellery to the Gulf States bids fair to increase in the coming year.

Based on the present upward trend, the Indian agency, Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation (HHEC), canalising the exports, has set the target at 312 million dollars for the next financial year (1981-82).

In the past three months, since the announcement of the new scheme which provided for supply of gold by importers of jewellery from this country, the export earnings from gold jewellery from mid-December to March this year are placed at 6.2 million dollars. The export orders are from parties in Kuwait, Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and the U.K. and involves supply of gold worth 120 kg.

PROGRESS MADE IN MALARIA VACCINE

Lucknow, (UNI) - "Exciting progress" has been made in the search for a vaccine for curing disease like leprosy and malaria.

According to Dr. A.O. Lucas, Director of the World Health Organisation's tropical diseases research programme, there has been considerable progress in the immunology of leprosy

Synthetic diesel

New Delhi, (UNI) - For the first time in India, synthetic diesel obtained from coal was successfully produced and tested by the Central Fuel Research Institute (CFRI) at Patna.

Official sources said the test, when a vehicle was run at an average speed of 40 km per hour, was conducted on January 20 and 21.

The synthetic crude oil was obtained from CFRI pilot plant and was further processed. The diesel oil fraction, obtained from the refined product, satisfied the specifications for high speed diesel (HSD), according to the source.

A special type of coal from Raniganj in Bihar was used in the pilot plant data it was computed that the yield of HSD and naptha would be of the order of 35 tonnes and 12 tonnes respectively for every 100 tonnes of feed coal (with ten per cent ash and five per cent moisture).

males and vasectomy

Patna, (UNI) - Males in the Indian state of Bihar are shunning sterilisation as a method of family planning, according to an official study.

And this is causing anxiety to the family welfare officers.

There has been a relatively low acceptance of vasectomy by males as compared with the acceptance of tubectomy by females in this state, the study reveals.

The number of people sterilised in the State in 1979-80 has been 85,000, which is much less than the previous year. "it is feared that the figure may go down further in the current year", the study says. Till last December-end, as many as 40,000 operations were performed against the target of 275,000.

Urdu display boards urged

New Delhi, (UNI) - Over one thousand ancient monuments of national importance in this city are associated with Muslim culture and history. Yet Urdu is not used in the "cultural notice-boards" displayed near the Muslim monuments, reports the Hindustan Times, a national daily.

The decision of the language to be used emanated from the general policy of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which, it is learnt, has not formally received any request for displaying boards in Urdu near Muslim monuments in Delhi.

The boards, describidng the monuments, are in English -- the "link language" -- and Hindi, the national language. Urdu is used in Hyderabad and Aligarh.

Coir workers hit Bihar

New Delhi, (UNI) - Nearly two lakhs coir workers of Kerala are threatened with retrenchment due to steep fall in coir exports, according to the Chairman of the Kerala State Co-operative Coir Marketing Federation, T. Prabhakaran.

The steep decline in exports and the consequent accumulation of coir stocks worth 5 million dollars has almost crippled the 456 primary co-operative societies in the State reports Financial Express - an Indian daily.

The federation, having completely utilised the allocation of 5.12 million dollars provided by the State Government for "distress purchase" and another 19,375 dollars received from the Central Reserve Bank as "concessional finance" is now short of resources.

Film delegation to Vietnam

New Delhi, (UNI) - A seven-member delegation from India will visit Hanoi and other parts of Vietnam next month to work out a programme of assisting the development of cinematography in that country.

The project has been undertaken by Cidalc International CAALA (Cooperation with Asia, Africa and Latin America) as a first step towards assisting the cinematographies of developing countries.

The delegation, on the invitation of the culture ministry of Vietnam, is headed by Mr. Devendra Kumar, President of the Indian Committee of Cidalc. Other members of the delegation are Mrs. Devendra Kumar, Filmmakers Gulzar, Basu Chatterjee, Ramanand Sagar, C.V.K. Shastry and Short Filmmaker G.G. Bhardwaj.

Indi a praised

New Delhi, (UNI) Bangladesh Foreign Minister Shamshul Haque has paid rich tributes to India for having brought about a consensus on the controversial issues before the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers' Conference.

"The conference started under the shadow of misgivings," he told newsmen at Delhi airport prior to emplaning for Dacca, adding that India has "contributed significantly by showing a spirit of accommodation".

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